

SUMMARY OF MAJOR ORDER ACTIONS DURING 2003

JANUARY

Pacific Northwest – January 1 (67 FR 69668, 11/19/02.) This interim final rule amends certain pooling provisions of the Pacific Northwest Federal milk order on an interim basis.

This interim order implements amendments to the pool plant provisions which establish a cooperative manufacturing plant provision and a procedure for “system pooling” by cooperative manufacturing plants.

For the producer milk provisions, this interim order implements amendments that establish a standard of at least 3 days’ milk production for the number of days during the month that the milk of a producer needs to be delivered to a pool plant (a “touch-base standard”) in order for the rest of the milk of that producer to be eligible to be diverted to nonpool plants, provides authority to the Market Administrator to adjust the “touch-base” standard, and establishes a year-round diversion limit of 80 percent of total receipts for pool plants.

MARCH

Central – March 1 (68 FR 7070, 2/12/03.) This interim final rule amends certain pooling provisions of the Central Federal milk order on an interim basis.

This interim order implements amendments to the pool plant provisions which establish lower but year-round supply plant performance standards; will not consider the volume of milk shipments to distributing plants regulated by another Federal milk order as a qualifying shipment for the Central order; exclude from receipts diverted milk made by a pool plant to another pool plant in determining pool plant diversion limits; and establish a “net shipments” provision for milk deliveries to distributing plants.

For the producer milk provisions, this interim order implements amendments that: establish higher year-round diversion limits; will base diversion limits for supply plants on deliveries to Central order distributing plants; and eliminate the ability to simultaneously pool milk on the Central milk order and a State-operated milk order that has marketwide pooling.

APRIL

Northeast and Other Marketing Areas – April 1 (68 FR 7063, 2/12/03.) This final rule implements revised product-price formulas for establishing Class III and Class IV milk prices. The formulas are applicable to all Federal milk marketing orders. The revised formulas can be found at [Price Formulas – 2003](#).

SEPTEMBER

Upper Midwest -- September 1 (68 FR 50686, 8/22/03.) This final rule adopts, without change, an interim final rule concerning pooling provisions of the Upper Midwest Federal milk order. Specifically, this final rule continues to prohibit the ability to simultaneously pool the same milk on the Upper Midwest Federal Milk Order and a State-operated milk order that has market-wide pooling. Additionally, the final rule limits the amount of milk that can be diverted to nonpool plants from pool distributing plants regulated under the order.

DECEMBER

Central – December 1 (68 FR 66697, 11/28/03.) This final rule adopts, without change, an interim final rule concerning pooling provisions of the Central Federal milk order. Specifically, this final rule continues to prohibit the ability to simultaneously pool milk on the Central milk order when the same milk is already pooled on a state-operated milk order that has marketwide pooling. This rule also continues provisions that: establish lower but year-round supply plant performance standards; do not consider the volume of milk shipments to distributing plants regulated by another Federal milk order as a qualifying shipment on the Central order; exclude from receipts diverted milk made by a pool plant to another pool plant in determining pool plant diversion limits; and establish a “net shipments” provision for milk deliveries to distributing plants.